

1939

A park activities program for Mount Tom Reservation.

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A PARK ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR
MOUNT TOM RESERVATION

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A PARK ACTIVITIES PROGRAM FOR MOUNT TOM RESERVATION

by

ROBERT P. HUNTER

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS
FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE
MASSACHUSETTS STATE COLLEGE

1939

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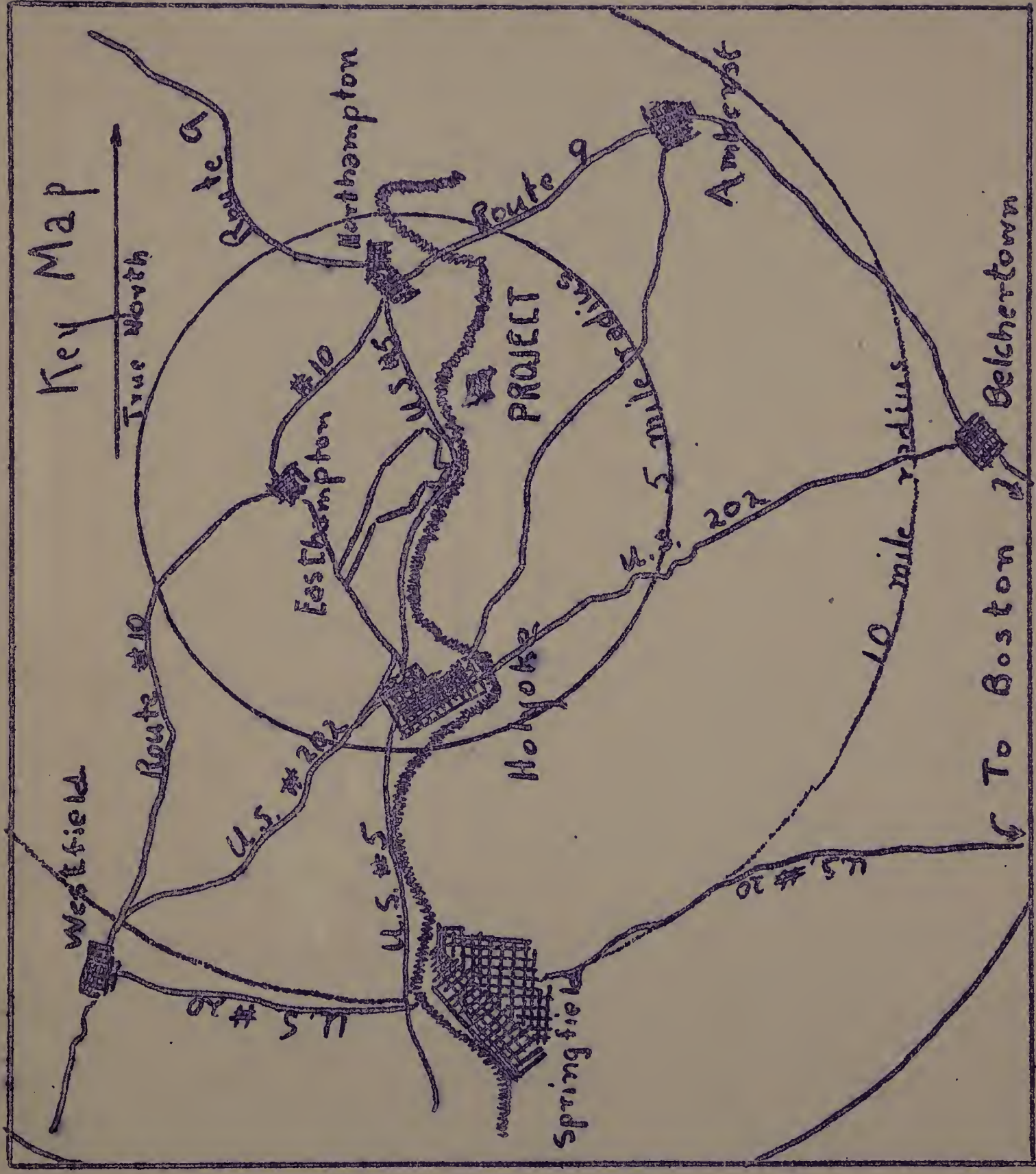
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Location of Mount Tom in Relation to Surrounding Communities

Source: Master Plan of Mount Tom Reservation

FOREWORD

Use planning for State Parks Programs is still in its infancy, relatively speaking, but a number of States have already developed satisfactory park recreational programs. This has been done in Iowa, New York's Bear Mountain Park, and West Virginia's Oglebay Park.

Mount Tom Reservation is being used this year as an experimental laboratory in an attempt to formulate a Park Activities Program that will serve the needs and interests of the park patrons.

During the summer of 1939, the park visitors at the Reservation will have a definitely planned recreational program based upon a few selected recreational activities. Directing this program will be a staff of competent leaders.

The results of this experiment will be the basis for the expansion of the activities program at Mount Tom. The results will also be used to develop programs in areas similar to the Reservation.

In order to insure uniformity of interpretation, L. H. Weir's definition of a park will be used. "A park is any area of the earth's surface set aside for the recreation of the people."

INTRODUCTION

"Leisure today, more leisure tomorrow and still an increasing amount of leisure to confront us in the years not too far distant, is a commonly accepted fact. Only recently has society given any thought to the 'golden opportunities and possible pitfalls' that lie in this leisure which has fallen upon us with such startling suddenness. The challenging problem of realizing the golden opportunities inherent in leisure, has been recognized and accepted today by leaders in the field of Recreation.

It will be a happy day when our educational institutions have implanted in the minds of their graduates the love for such activities that will mold the recreational attitude and habits of the graduates to the proper use of leisure time throughout their life.

It is the responsibility of public agencies administering recreational areas to provide the opportunity and the environment for the expression of recreational desires. Today, more than ever, park authorities are planning and developing recreational facilities based upon a thorough understanding of human interests and needs. The prime objective of every recreational plan, that is comprehensive in scope, is the establishment of such areas that will adequately and effectively serve all normal play and recreational needs." 1/

1/ Bike, Edward L.: "Recreation Interests, Habits and Needs Of Kentucky People"-National Park Service - p.1.
1938

NEED FOR RECREATIONAL AREAS

The need for recreational areas has always existed but there is universal recognition at present that recreation, intelligently planned and directed, is more nearly indispensable in our generation than ever before in the history of the human race. This urgent necessity arises largely out of two contrasting situations: (1) the changed conditions of human existence in the machine age, and (2) the nature of man in the light of his evolution.

Out of a process of evolution extending over millions of years man has emerged as a creature adjusted to an environment characterized by such features as fresh air, sunlight, coarse foods, and manifold physical activity. Man is, by nature, an outdoor animal fitted for a free untrammelled life. Because of the nature of his evolution man is much better fitted to thrive in an environment which calls for physical activity than under conditions which demand much mental concentration and emotional stress.

Progress has brought to mankind great industrial institutions -- noises, smoke, storage yards of by-products -- all the intricate components of modern city life and shorter working hours. From the baronial acres of the early settler, human residency has become confined to relatively small areas. Play space for children, opportunities to see the beauties of nature, adequate space for active sports and recreation are automatically denied to the great majority of people living under such crowded conditions.

In these days of hectic existence, with fewer persons gainfully employed and with the shorter working hours, parks provide the great majority with their chief opportunity for recreation. Recreation varies with people according to their occupations, ages, personal interests, health and physical characteristics.

Recreation may be active or passive. To sit beneath a tree and watch children at play, or to see seasonal flowers lift their colorful faces to the sun,- in short, to simply sit and rest may be complete recreation for one person while to participate in strenuous games requiring muscular activity may be recreation for another.

Therefore, in order to satisfy the biological and physiological needs of man and to offer an escape from modern city life which makes terrific demands upon the human machine, and to creatively use the leisure time that is a result of the machine age, definite areas are needed in which man can really get out-of-doors and appreciate nature.

2/

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

There is a general lack of specific statistical data relative to the use of the Mount Tom Reservation, therefore the final program of Park Activities has to be definitely limited to the statistics available for comparable areas.

The National Park Service, in 1937, conducted a

2/ U. S. Dept. of Interior: "Recreational Use of Land In
1938 The United States." Part XI.,
Report of Land Planning, National
Park Service. p.p. 5-6

statistical survey in eighty-six of its areas in Region One. The resulting information is the basis upon which the final program for Mount Tom, during the coming summer, is based.

There have been many Leisure Time Studies 3/ completed in recent years but the information contained in the findings of these surveys is not applicable to a reservation such as Mount Tom. The Leisure Time Studies refer especially to cities and intensive Recreation Centers.

Also, because of limited finances of the Reservation Commission, the Park Activities Program was limited to the activities which would incorporate existing facilities. This definitely limited the program to such activities which could be utilized without the expenditure of any additional funds.

The purpose of this study is to plan a park activities program for the Mount Tom Reservation, which program will enable the park visitor to experience a fuller appreciation of nature and its beauties.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PROBLEM

The information contained in this study will be valuable for the following reasons:

- (1) It will fill a definite need for the area and will result in better use of the reservation by park visitors.

3/ Gloss, G.M: "What People Do In Their Spare Time". The Research Quarterly of the American Association for Health and Physical Education. Vol. IX, No. 2, May - p.p. 138-141.

(2) It will present a program that will meet with the demands of the people the area serves.

(3) It parallels the program of activities introduced in other State Parks.

(4) The results of this program of the activities on the Mt. Tom Reservation will be valuable to the National Park Service who is interested in helping other States handle such a program.

The procedure used was to study all of the available written material and statistics of the reservation. There was very little information available regarding the Mount Tom area. The National Park Service furnished the statistics for the year of 1938. Moreover the area was surveyed on foot. The physical and natural resources were tabulated on forms provided by the National Park Service. (See Appendix)

In addition to this, material written about State Parks, Recreational Use of Land, Park Programs and Leisure Time Studies was reviewed, and the writer visited other areas, similar to Mount Tom, in order to determine the extent and type of work carried out therein.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE MOUNT TOM RESERVATION

The Mount Tom State Reservation, located upon the Mount Tom Range, was purchased by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts under a legislative act of 1903, and is maintained by Hampden and Hampshire Counties at an expense of \$14,500 per year. It is a publicly owned and operated reservation. It is used for the enjoyment of all the people, and is open the entire year, with the exception of a short time in the spring, when some of the dirt roads are impassable.

The area is located close to the Connecticut River, equidistant between the cities of Holyoke, Easthampton, and Northampton, and is accessible by two main highways.

It is bordered on the south by the commercially operated Mountain Park, which may, someday, be added to the reservation. At present the purchase price is prohibitive. The only other nearby recreation center is a group of commercially operated beaches on fresh water ponds, situated about five miles to the southwest.

The population served by this area, within a five mile radius, is found in the cities of Northampton, Easthampton and Holyoke; within a ten mile radius, the cities of Springfield and Westfield and the towns of Amherst and Belchertown are included. It can be easily seen that the area serves a very large number of people who have no similar recreational facilities.

TOPOGRAPHIC FEATURES 4/

The Mount Tom Ridge extends from Mt. Tom, its highest point being 1303 feet above sea level on the south, to Mt. Nonotuck on the north. In between these two peaks are a number of lesser peaks, these running in order northerly from Mount Tom,- Dead Top, Whiting Peak, Goat Peak, Dry Knoll, and Mount Nonotuck. Small valleys separate the various summits except between Whiting and Goat Peak. Here a wide valley intervenes which has been cut down to the sandstone and carries the only road that crosses the ridge, namely the road between Easthampton and Smith's Ferry. At the northern edge, near Mt. Nonotuck, the ridge is breached by the Connecticut River after which breach it continues in an easterly direction and is known as the Mt. Holyoke Range.

Just below the talus slopes on the western face of the Mt. Tom Ridge runs the Christopher Clark Road which extends from the road connecting Holyoke and Easthampton to Mt. Tom Junction, below Mt. Nonotuck. It was once a stage coach road. On the east of Mt. Tom, and paralleling it closely until it meets the Connecticut River, is a minor ridge sometimes known as the little Mt. Tom Ridge. It rises at little Mt. Tom, just north of Mountain Park and extends in a northeasterly direction closely paralleling the other

4/ Rosanski, George: "Final Report Of The Geologic Survey Of Mount Tom State Reservation"- National Park Service. p.p. 1-4

ridge. To the east of the minor ridge lies the Connecticut River. North of the Mount Tom Range the Connecticut River forms the famous cut-off Ox-Bow and extends northerly across the state to Vermont and New Hampshire.

THE LAND 4/

The Reservation includes about one half of a high basaltic ridge, very rugged in character. On the west side there are vertical basalt cliffs, about one and one-half miles long, from which the land falls away with base talus slopes. Below these slopes the less steep slopes carry down to the level of the Connecticut River plain. The east slopes are less steep than the west slopes and enclose some beautiful valleys drained by constantly flowing streams. In the extreme east portion, nearly at the foot of the mountain, there is an artificial lake.

HISTORY

The accounts of the events and movements leading to the acquisition and establishment of the Mount Tom Reservation have become buried in the annals of history. All attempts to procure definite information from the old settlers have either proven fruitless or erroneous. To write a true history would require research into the files of neighboring newspapers, histories of nearby towns, et cetera, which is not the purpose of this paper.

4/ Rosanski, George: "Final Report of the Geologic Survey of Mount Tom State Reservation"-
National Park Service. p.p. 1-4

One pertinent fact was unearthed however. The guiding sponsor and most diligent worker in the campaign to secure the necessary legislative action was Christopher Clark, a resident of Northampton, Massachusetts. Although the aid of other publicly-minded individuals was secured, their efforts were practically nil. Prompted only by a sincere love of the mountain ranges, the vegetation and the wildlife to be found thereon, Christopher Clark waged an almost single-handed fight to secure and preserve this wild and mountainous area for posterity.

Finally, in the fall of 1902, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts ordered the execution of a topographical survey of the area proposed for acquisition, and on April 25, 1903, the legislative act was passed authorizing the commissioners of Hampden and Hampshire Counties "to take or acquire by purchase the necessary land, not exceeding 1500 acres." To carry out the purposes of this act, the sum of \$35,000 was appropriated by the Commonwealth. In the same year the act was submitted, for approval, to the legal voters of the said counties and was passed by a comfortable margin.

In 1917, the Commonwealth deemed it advisable to purchase an additional 300 acres and in 1932 another $1\frac{1}{2}$ acres, for which the sums of \$1,000 and \$500 were paid respectively.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE AREA

The Mount Tom State Reservation is maintained under the direction of the Mount Tom State Reservation Commission, comprising of the County Commissioners of Hampden and Hampshire Counties. They are as follows:

Hampden County Commissioners:

Thomas J. Costello, Springfield, Mass.

Charles W. Bray, Chicopee, Mass.

Edward J. Stapleton, Holyoke, Mass.

Hampshire County Commissioners:

John R. Callahan, Jr., Northampton, Mass.

Clarence E. Hodgkins, Northampton, Mass.

Charles A. Bisbee, Northampton, Mass.

Mr. Charles Bray is Chairman of the Mount Tom Reservation Commission.

EXISTING FACILITIES

There are, within the confines of the Reservation, about eight miles of country roads accessible for automobile traffic and more than twenty miles of foot paths and trails. The automobile roads center and cross at Free Orchard, near the central part of the Reservation. Close by are the picnic grounds and a number of camps for the use of the public. Some of these camps are equipped with outdoor fireplaces and ovens, and all are supplied with tables and benches, intended for the use of the picnickers and campers. No special permission is

required to build fires in these ovens for cooking, but every possible care is taken to prevent the spread of fire outside the fire boxes.

As a means of identification, these camps are named for various commissioners of the reservation, either past or present.

Good spring water is available at points near the picnic grounds.

There are two steel lookout towers, each about thirty feet in height, one being located on Goat Peak and the other at Free Orchard, near the picnic grounds. There are four vistas for sightseeing at various points of vantage along Christopher Clark Road.

A small artificial lake, known as Lake Bray, located about a quarter of a mile from the Smith's Ferry entrance to the reservation, adds to the scenic beauty. From the roadway which forms the dam impounding this lake there is a beautiful view of the East side of the range and the summit of Mount Tom.

The Civilian Conservation Corp Camp, (#1173) known as SP-18, was established at the reservation on August 28, 1935. Since that time the camp has aided materially in developing the area so that the visiting public could still further appreciate the beauties of nature. Under competent supervision, the C.C.C. boys have constructed new roads, made picnic areas, parking spaces, and cleaned

up the woods in general. At present they are clearing up timber damaged by the hurricane so that the fire hazard in the area will be reduced.

The visitors to the reservation must pay tribute to these young men and their superiors. They have done a wonderful job. Future plans for the development of additional areas, by the C.C.C., for picnicking around Lake Bray have been submitted and it is only a matter of time before the using public will have new picnic areas in a natural setting.

PRESENT USE OF MOUNT TOM

The following use statistics for the Mount Tom Reservation were collected by the National Park Service during the 1938 summer season.

Table I

ATTENDANCE BY DAYS OF THE WEEK		
Day	# of people	%
Monday	13,809	22.5
Tuesday	3,469	5.6
Wednesday	5,800	9.3
Thursday	5,998	9.8
Friday	3,427	5.6
Saturday	6,107	10.0
Sunday	22,700	37.0
..Total...	<u>61,310</u>	<u>99.8</u>

Table II

ATTENDANCE BY AGE GROUPS

Under 18	15,302	25.0
Over 18	46,008	75.0
.. Total ...	<u>61,310</u>		<u>100.0</u>

Table III

CAR TABULATIONS

In-State Cars	12,090	89.7
Out-State Cars	1,378	10.3
Persons in In-State Cars	16,283*	
Persons in Out-State "	1,462**	
Pedestrians	5,843	

* 3.8 persons per car, based on correct figures for three weeks.

**3.7 persons per car based on correct figures for three weeks.

Table IV

ATTENDANCE BY PERIOD OF DAY

<u>Period</u>	<u># of people</u>	<u>%</u>
Morning	9,345	15.2
Afternoon	31,350	51.1
Evening	<u>20,615</u>	<u>33.7</u>
.. Total ..	61,310	100.0

Table V

Statistics and percentages on attendance during 1938 summer season by weeks of the season -

Date	# of people	%
May 1 - 7	6,505	10.8
" 29 - June 4	8,549	15.6
June 12-18	5,911	9.6
" 26 - July 2	15,605	25.5
July 24-30	7,080	11.5
Aug. 7 - 13	7,641	12.5
" 28 - Sept. 3	9,019*	14.7
.. Totals ..	61,310	100.0
Average attendance per week	8,760	14.3

*Includes attendance from August 30th through September 5th.

PROGRAM PRIOR TO 1939

Up until the present time there have been no attempts in planning a program of activities for the reservation. Heretofore, anyone visiting the area would be able to go fishing picnicking, sightseeing, or hiking. No leadership was available, primarily because of limited finances and partially because of the failure of the Reservation Commission to see the necessity for such a director.

In other words, the facilities for many activities were available but no attempt was ever made to capitalize on these natural features and thus make the visitors' stay more interesting. This situation was in no way a fault of the Commission but is characteristic of State

Reservations at this time.

The Commission employs a group of six men to police and maintain the area. The Civilian Conservation Corp Camp is developing new facilities and maintain a fire patrol. Other than these activities, which are an absolute necessity in Park Administration, there have been no attempts to provide an incentive or a motivating force in leading the park visitor to a fuller appreciation of the beauties of the reservation.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION

The successful development of the Park Activities Program at Mount Tom Reservation will be dependent to a large extent upon the efficiency and thoroughness with which the Advisory Committee acts.

The Advisory Committee is not being a legislative group, because such powers rest with the Hampden and Hampshire County Commissioners who are ex-officio members of the committee. The committee is advisory in name and function and the recommendations must be submitted to the Commissioners for legislative action.

The members appointed to this committee were chosen not only because of their prestige, but also because of their sincere and wholehearted interest in conservation and park activities. The writer questioned several authorities in the fields of Nature and Recreation as

to possible committee members. Each person questioned submitted a list of names. Those people whose names were mentioned more than once by these specialists were sent a letter (see appendix) asking them to serve on an Advisory Committee for the reservation.

For obvious reasons the letter emanated from the office of the Chairman of the County Commissioners, Mr. Charles W. Bray.

The Advisory Committee held its first meeting at Massachusetts State College on April 25th, 1939 and approval was given of the following committees: (see appendix)

1. Executive:

This committee will be comprised of the regular officers of the Lay Committee group, i.e., president, vice-president, and secretary. It will be the responsibility of this group to take care of all organization details of the Advisory Committee, and to keep accurate record of the achievements of the Advisory Committee.

2. Program:

This committee will work with the Recreational Director on the program of special park activities:

- (a) Community social events
- (b) Campfire services
- (c) Nature hikes
- (d) Other special events

3. Publicity and Promotion:

In order to make the park activities program a success, it is necessary that these activities be adequately advertised so as to attract the greatest number of persons. Duties of the committee are:

- (a) To see that notices of all park activities are sent to the newspapers in neighboring communities;
- (b) To secure time on local radio stations;
- (c) To provide speakers for civic clubs and organizations;
- (d) To assist in making arrangements for special events.

The Advisory Committee if it functions efficiently will be one of the key factors on which the success of the program will depend. The committee must work harmoniously and must have as its primary interest the increasing of the recreational value of Mount Tom to the general public by placing at its disposal all possible information, supervision and guidance relating to park activity.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The National Park Service has found from past experience that the use of a Lay Committee Group not only facilitated the functioning of the Park Activities Program, but that it also aided materially in the

development and expansion of the program.

The Works Progress Administration publication 5/ on State Park Recreation says: "The successful development of a State Park Recreation Program is to a large extent dependent upon the correct organization and proper use of a local Advisory Council or Lay Committee Group. The interest of the members in the project, and their ability to develop the program and correctly interpret it to the community will go far in determining its efficiency."

"It is essential, of course, that the committee be kept within working size, and yet it should be large enough to be representative of the community, that it may give prestige and authority to the project, and to utilize every possible opportunity to develop the program."

"It is highly desirable that the Committee represent all groups in the community and that they are on record as being active and interested in conservation and park activities. These individuals must be willing and able to give time and thought to the program, and if necessary act as volunteer leaders."

This coming summer at Mount Tom there will be an Advisory Committee that will work with the Recreational Director. Insofar as it was possible the committee members were chosen with the above ideas in mind.

5/ Works Progress Administration: "State Parks Recreation"-
Federal Writers' Project -
Illinois, p.p. 3-7

LEADERSHIP FOR MOUNT TOM

A recent publication, "State Parks Recreation" 6/ published by the Works Progress Administration, presents an excellent argument for leadership in parks which serve a lot of people. The following paragraphs are not intended to prove that parks, without leaders, do not contribute to the enrichment of community life, but rather that parks employing leaders undoubtedly contribute more to life.

"Contemporary life demands more from state park areas than mere conservation of natural resources, more than preservation of the wonders of nature. Many park officials feel there is a real obligation to so adapt park facilities, and to so shape park usage and make available to this tremendously variegated patronage, recreational opportunities for self-expression, relaxation, release from tension, companionship, and communion with nature."

"Fulfillment of these obligations requires leadership of the finest character, since we find here a group with no set behavior patterns in terms of conduct in such a situation, a group which will not tolerate any attempt at regimentation of its time while in the park, a group of a thousand different interests. Here is a

6/ Works Progress Administration: "State Parks Recreation"
Federal Writers' Project-
Illinois - p.p. 14-15

large group few of whom have been educated for the wise use of leisure, a group having potentially great powers of destruction in the park but which if properly led will not only enjoy participation in the facilities of the park but will welcome the opportunity for relaxation, self-expression, companionship, refreshment and renewal of life in the doing. Leadership competent to accomplish these things must have as one of its major objectives a wholesome consideration and respect for the individual."

Realizing the value of recreational leadership and guidance for Mount Tom, the Recreational Director and his assistants have been picked with utmost care.

The staff and its qualifications and duties follow:

In order to carry on the program at Mount Tom during the summer season of 1939, the County Commissioners have agreed to engage a Recreational Director for a period of four months.

In addition to the Recreational Director, an assistant Recreational Director and a Naturalist for the Reservation will be furnished by the Works Progress Administration. It is hoped that, through the Program Committee, volunteer leaders will be available.

The Recreational Director will be well acquainted with the Reservation and the area which it serves. On him devolves the duty of advising with the Advisory Committee, helping them to intelligently plan and put

on the program for the season. He will cooperate with the Reservation Commission in outlining a program that will give the best possible results. He is also a "Goodwill Ambassador" to all the contributing territory and must contact individuals and groups in behalf of the Park Program. He must be thoroughly interested in his work and thoroughly acquainted with the Recreational Program.

The assistant Recreational Director must also be thoroughly interested in nature, have a thorough knowledge of the task to be performed and a sympathetic understanding of human nature. Within the Park he will contact the park patrons and will acquaint them with the program of activities that is available to them. He will organize and conduct tours through the Reservation, discussing with his group the various natural features they meet. He will also function as the leader of the outdoor groups, directing their program towards conservation and nature.

The naturalist must have an excellent knowledge of the flora, fauna, and geologic formations in the Reservation. He will lead tours throughout the reservation, assist with the outdoor groups, and aid the Recreational Director with his work.

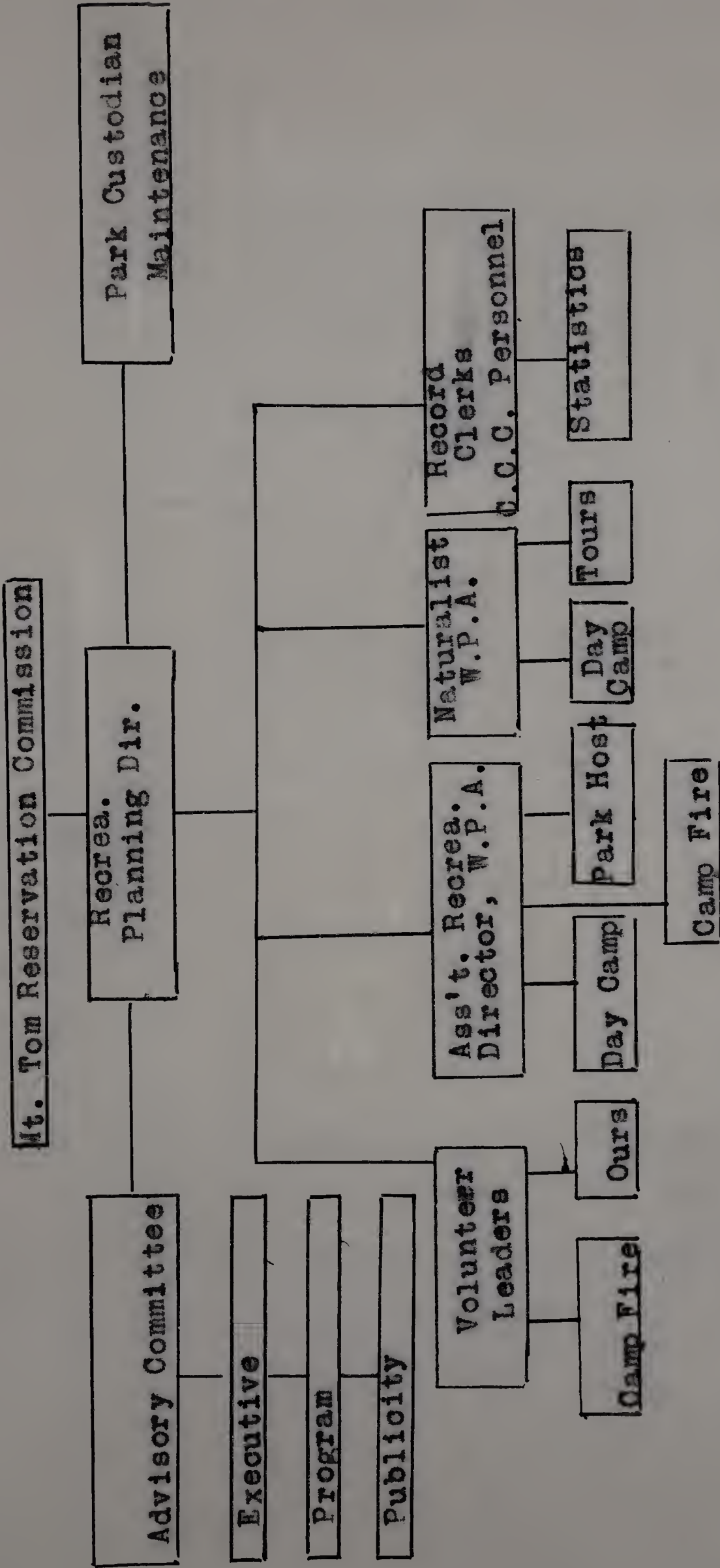
Volunteer leaders interested in the various fields of nature and conservation will be used as the occasion

demands. At the present time a list of fourteen have signified their intentions to assist the Recreational Director.

Maintenance and policing the area will still rest in the hands of the Superintendent of the Reservation who will cooperate with the Recreational Director.

Statistics on the use of the area, facilities, attendance, etc., will be taken by some individual or individuals so designated by the National Park Service.

ORGANIZATION CHART FOR MOUNT TOM RESERVATION



PARK ACTIVITIES PROGRAM

Before attempting to formulate a Park Activities Program for Mount Tom Reservation, I attempted to find out just who visited the area. The National Park Service in 1937 instituted a study in 86 selected Parks 7/ to seek an evaluation of existing park recreation programs. Included in this study were surveys which would enable the Park Service to determine the characteristics of the park visitor and the type of activities that were desired. This study was made in Region 1 which includes the New England States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida.

In planning the Program for Mount Tom Reservation, the writer has referred to the results of this study in order that the facilities offered to the visitors in the reservation would enable them to participate in activities in which they are interested.

The National Park Service study showed (figure 1) that for the seasonal average for the State Park Visitor under eighteen years of age was only 22.9%, whereas the total average for this group is slightly above 40%. This indicated that children do not use the State Parks nearly

7/ U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report On Attendance And Use At 86 Selected Parks In Region I"- National Park Service, p.p. 30-32, 35

Attendance at State Parks By Age

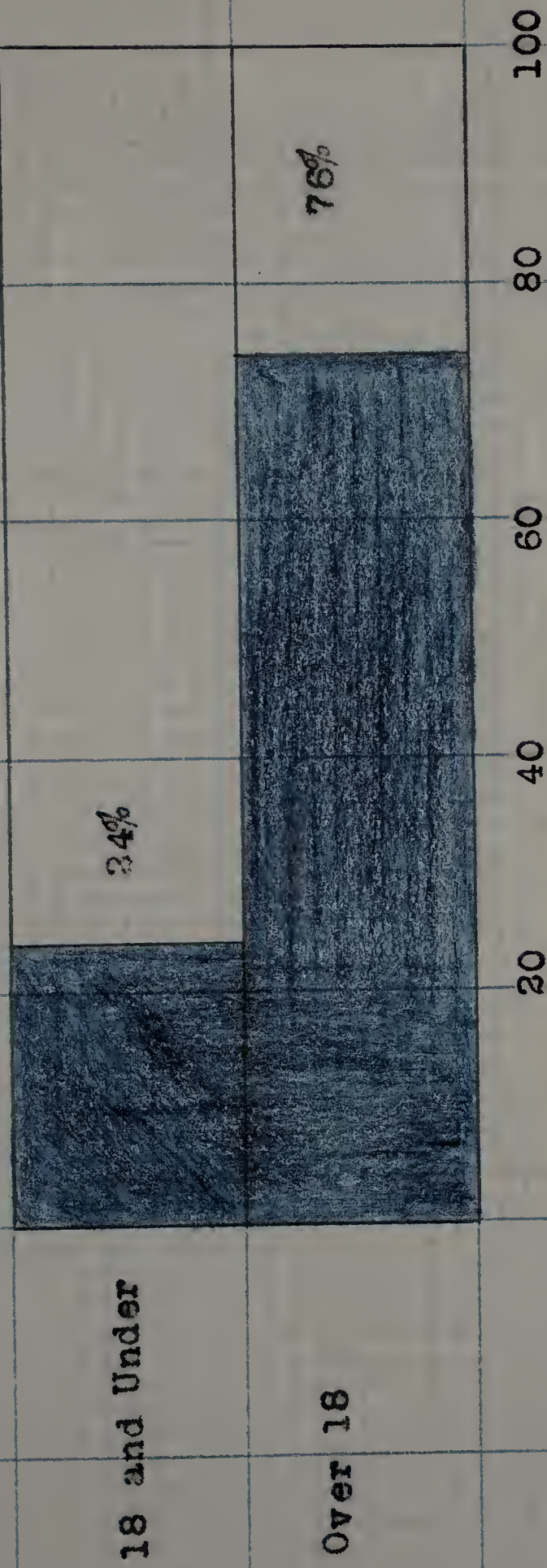


Figure 1.

Source: U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report on Attendance and
1938

Use at 86 Selected Parks in Region One"- National Park Service - p.30

so extensively as adults.

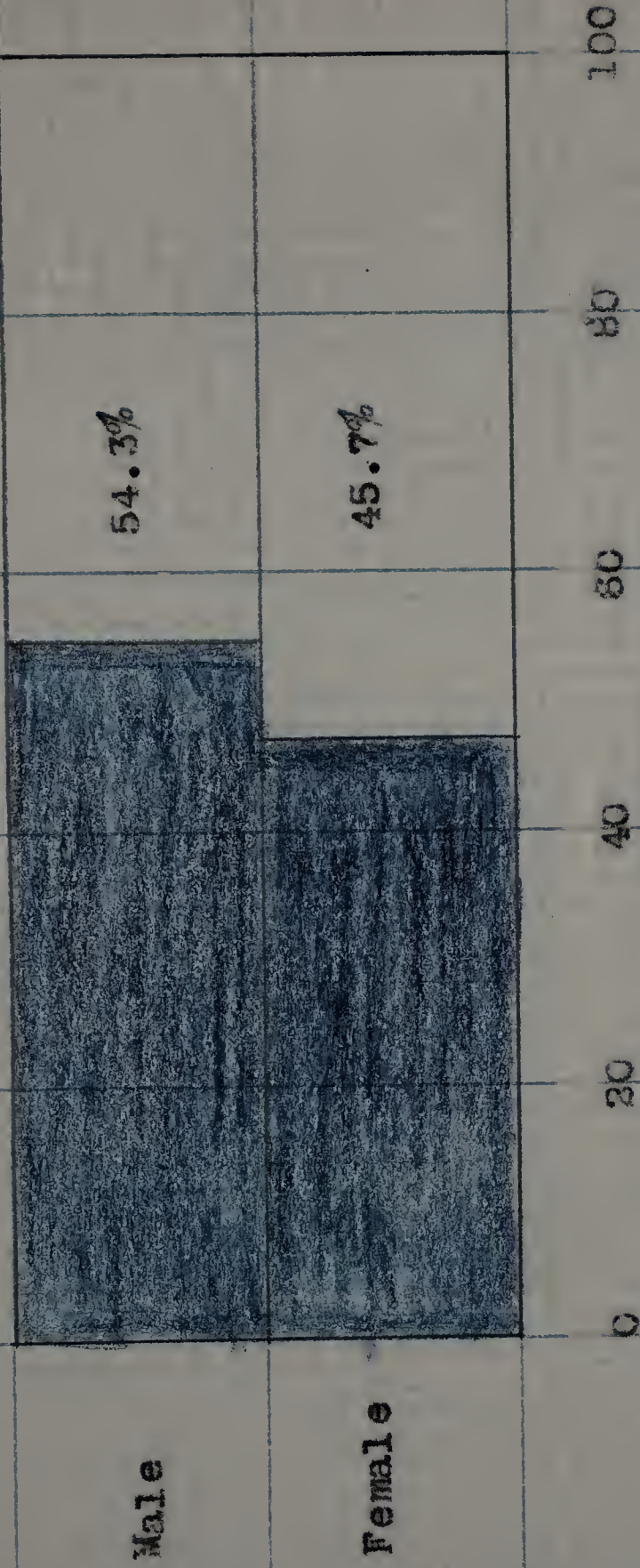
Generally speaking, the reasons for the low percentage of park visitors under eighteen were lack of mobility and the type of activity offered. Children have fewer means of transportation, being in the most cases dependent upon adults to carry them to and from areas outside the reach of common carriers. Youth also wants, as the major part of its recreational diet, strenuous competitive sports and other types of organized activities which are seldom provided on State Administered areas.

Figure 2 of the National Park Service study showed that the attendance by sex of all parks was approximately equal and that this factor may be eliminated as a planning problem in State Parks.

Figure 3 indicates the percentage attendance of seven selected areas according to an occupational classification. The occupation of commerce which includes business, industry, trades and other related occupational groups provides the highest attendance at State Parks. Labor and the Professional group are next, while the agricultural worker is the least frequent visitor.

According to the Park Use Study, urban and non-farm dwellers make up the bulk of park patrons. Actual tabulation by the National Park Service indicated that only 12% of the visitors in seven selected areas were farmers. Even where a park was located in a rural section

Attendance at All Parks by Sex



Source: U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report On Attendance and
1938

Use at 86 Selected Parks in Region One"- National Park

Service - p. 32

Figure 3

Attendance at Seven Selected Areas by Occupational Type

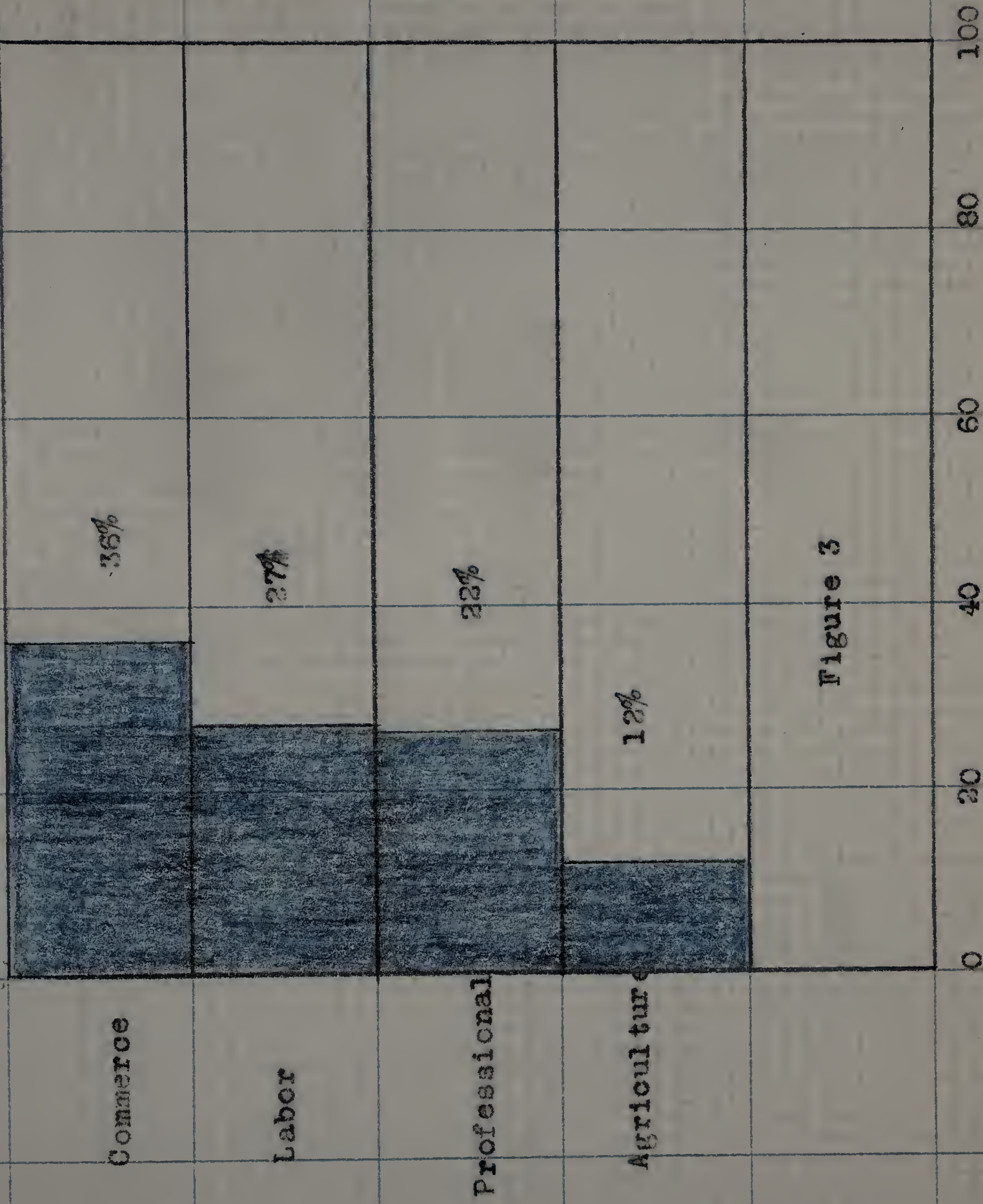


Figure 3

Source: U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report on Attendance and Use at 86 Selected Parks in Region One" - National Park Service, p.35

of the state, as in Vogel, Georgia, the percentage of farm visitors was only a little over 13%.

The Park Service believes this situation to be the result of farmers living in a more or less natural setting similar to those provided by state parks and are consequently not intrigued by scenic and wilderness beauties. Also, the farmer seems to prefer seeking his recreation in towns and cities which are less familiar and consequently more interesting to him.

Figure 4 shows the percentage use of facilities at state parks. "The average park visitor does one or more of four things: he picnics, or he swims, or he visits points of interest, or he loafs". The above quotation is given by the National Park Service but it is true only when leadership is lacking. The Park Service says, "the success of any program depends upon a competent recreational director."

It is interesting to compare what people do when they seek recreation, with what they would like to do. Figure 5, taken from the National Park Service, contains a summary of the results of the study of 86 areas relative to this matter.

In addition to the use of specific facilities on a percentage basis the Park Service made a "Park Use Chart". This chart was prepared by R. C. Robinson, Regional

Use of Facilities at State Parks

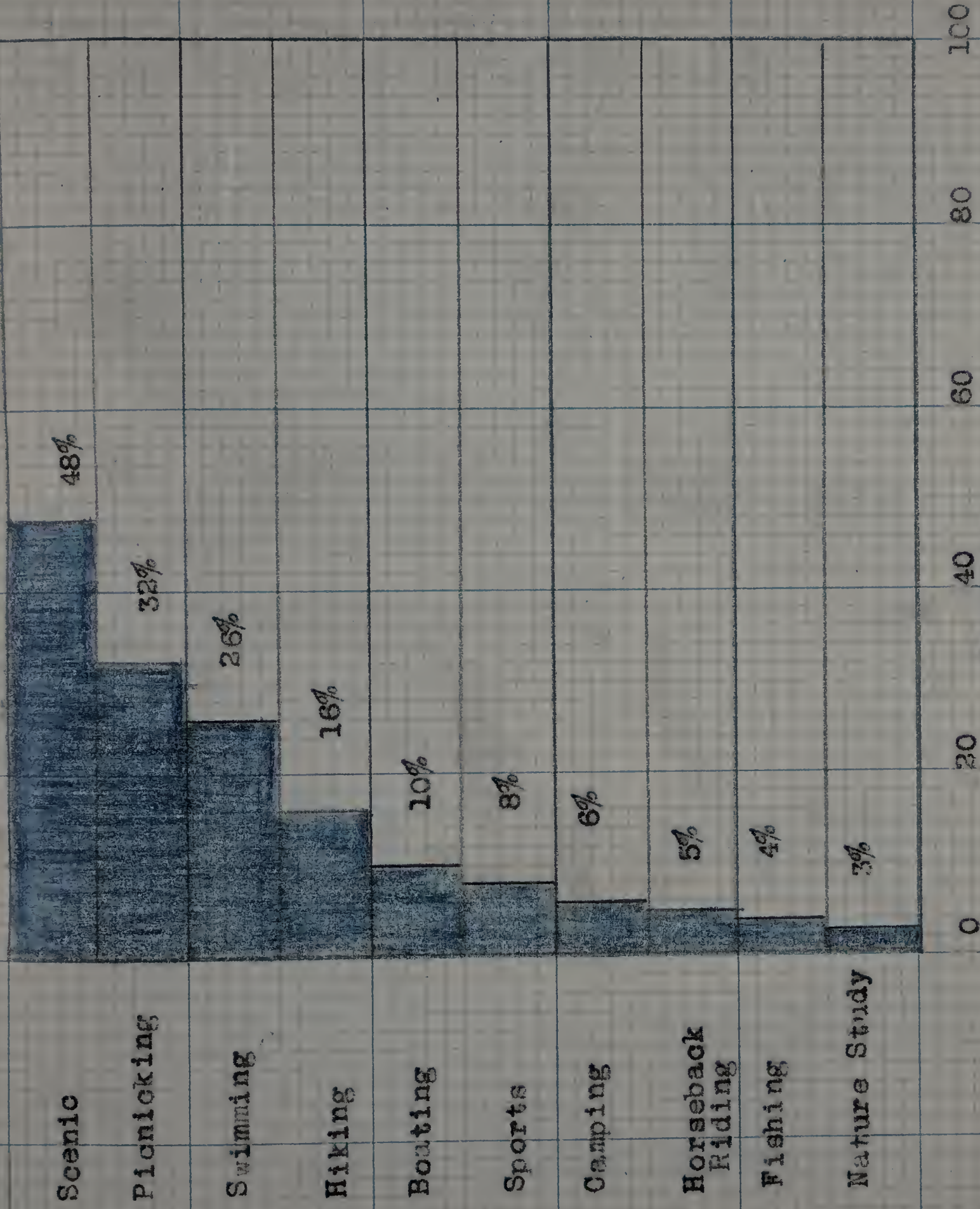


Figure 4

Source: U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report on Attendance and Use at 1938
86 Selected Parks in Region One" - National Park Service, p. 50

Participation in Activities Compared
With the Recreational Interests of
Partrons

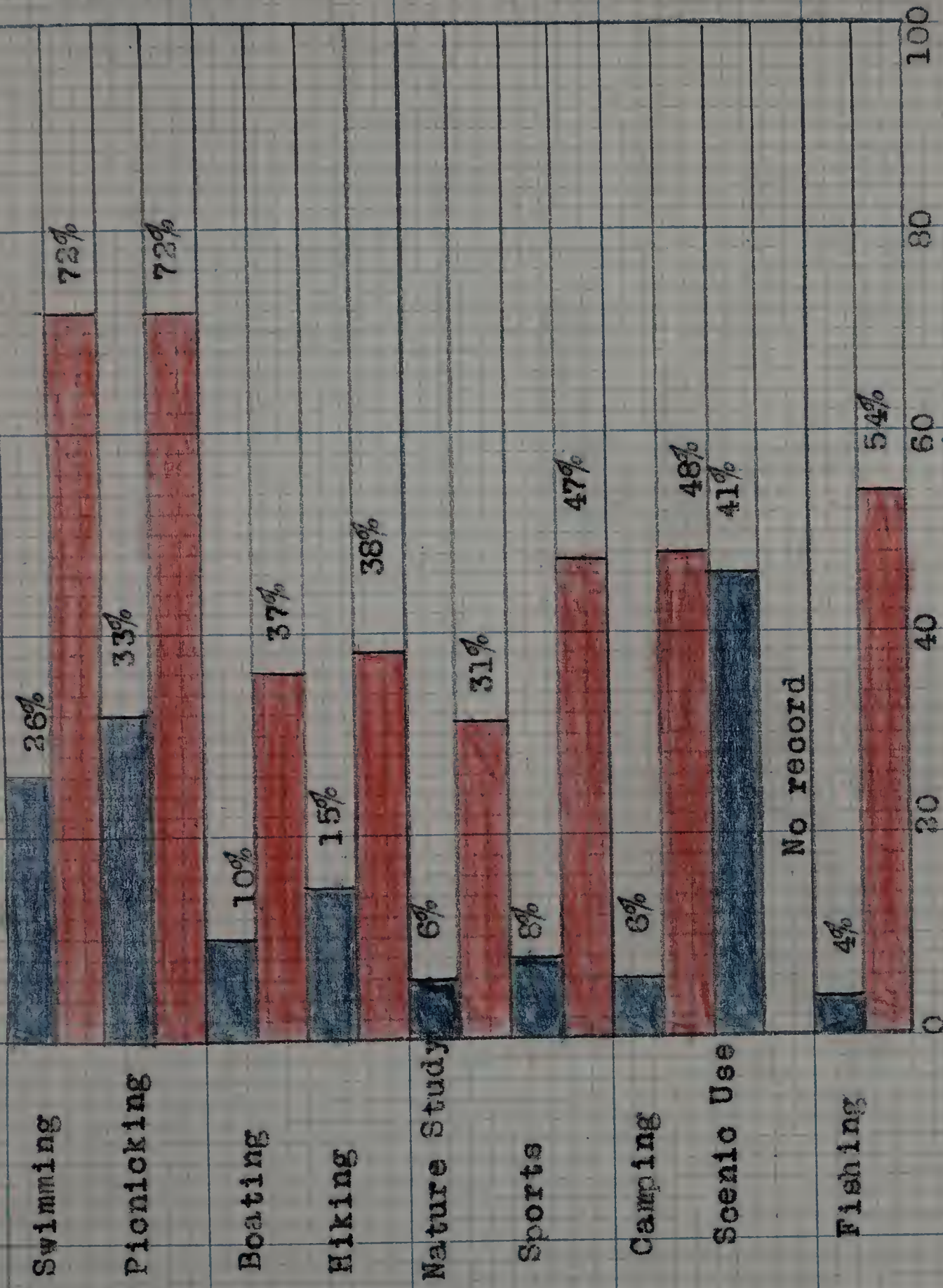


Figure 5

Legend:

Use-

Interest-

Source: U.S. Dept. of Interior - "A Report on Attendance and Use
1938
at 86 Selected Parks in Region One"- National Park Service, p. 61

Recreational Planner. 8/

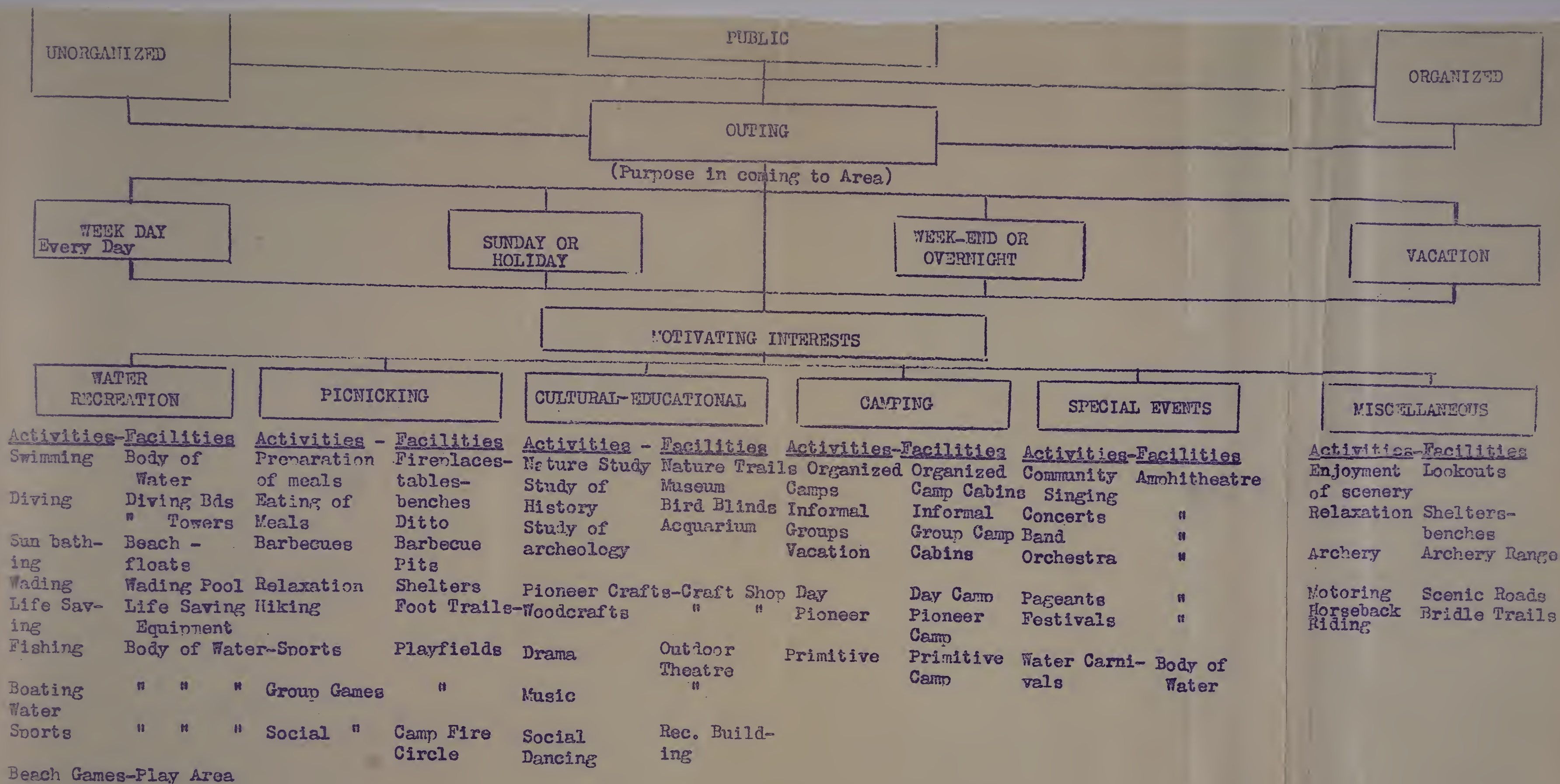
Mr. Robinson's statement relative to the chart is most interesting. "While the results of these studies are by no means startling, they do serve to crystalize knowledge which has been accumulated through the experience and observations of recreational administrators and leaders. They reveal that the average man's recreational interest form a complex pattern in which one activity becomes enjoyable only because it makes possible still other activities; that what psychologists term the gregarious instinct constitutes a powerful motivating force in shaping his recreational preferences, causing him to seek principally those activities which afford him companionship in abundance; and that, as in other human endeavors, organization and leadership are fundamental.9/

The Park Use Chart made by Mr. Robinson represents a graphic picture of the results of the study. It should be understood that there is an over-lapping of interest between activities; for example, the picnicker may want to eat his lunch at the picnic ground, play on the play area, or hike along the Nature Trail.

Mr. Robinson also said that over-lapping of interests is of prime importance since each activity will contribute

8/ Robinson, R.C.: "The Human Factor In Recreational Planning" - The Regional Review, National Park Service, Vol. II, #3, February, p.14

9/ " " " p.p. 15-20



something both to the popularity of an area and to the enjoyment of park visitors. He goes on to say, because of the foregoing reasons, that planning should include opportunities for as wide a diversity of interests as is practicable.

The foregoing remarks answer the question of who park visitors are, what they do while in the park, what they would like to do, and why they come to the park. With this information as a basis, the activities for Mount Tom Reservation have been chosen.

The following is the Park Activities Program for Mount Tom Reservation, which has been approved by the Mt. Tom Advisory Committee and the Commissioners of the Reservation for use in the reservation for the summer of 1939.

In an attempt to make the visitors stay more pleasurable, and to stimulate in him an appreciation of nature and the beauty of the park, the following program will be instituted.

There will be three new phases introduced which will supplement the previous activities of picnicking, sightseeing, and fishing. The results of this work will provide the basis for a long range program which will include all of the seasons of the year.

The first introduction will be self-guiding nature trails. It has been observed in other areas that,

although people are very familiar with the neighboring terrain, they have absolutely no conception of the flora and fauna which actually exists in the vicinity of their picnic grounds. 10/ The stress upon nature study will be negligible, as no attempt will be made to cram this subject down the park visitors throat. Instead nature lore will be stressed. The difference between botany and nature lore is that in the latter the individual's own initiative must be the driving factor, whereas in the former, an instructor must supply the motivation. The latter arrangements have been tried out in various forest preserves with phenomenal success. 11/

In addition to the self-guiding trails, it has been proposed to have weekly excursions for interested persons to various sections of the park and the nearby mountains. The object of these excursions will be to observe the natural phenomena that exist in these areas. These hikes will be in the hands of a competent leader and will be announced in advance, so enabling those interested to come and get thoroughly acquainted with such details as the length of the trip, the ground to be covered, and the

10/ U.S. Dept. of Interior: "A Report On Attendance And Use At 86 Selected Parks In Region I"- National Park Service - p.50
1938

11/ Welch, Fay: "Nature Lore In Camps" - The Camping Magazine, Vol. VI, #3, March; p.6
1937

kind of material to be observed.

It has also been proposed that another feature of the program be a campfire circle. The campfire circle is intended to be temporary and will eventually yield its place to an outdoor theatre. The theatre will be constructed pending approval of the park commissioners and the National Park Service. The circle will be the site for both formal and informal programs. 12/ The formal programs will be arranged ahead of time by the advisory committee and advanced publicity. They will partially consist of speakers who will donate their time to enlighten the park visitors in various fields of nature. Under such a program there might be included, astronomy, group singing, amateur photography, and a host of other activities. The informal program will depend upon the initiative of the Recreational Director. The possibilities of this phase of the program are unlimited and the outcome will be, for a while, still a moot question. In other areas this part of the program was a positive success.

The third part of the plan will be for Outdoor Groups. This activity is similar to the Day or Stay at Home Camps. Day camping is similar to organized camping

12/ U.S. Dept. of Interior: "Recreational Use of Land
1938 In the United States"-
Park XI, Report of Land Plan-
ning, National Park Service,
p.p. 242-243.

and is on the same principles, except that the youngsters go to their homes at night. 13/

The purpose in instituting this program is not to interfere with the now existing playground activities but rather to supplement them. There is no denying the value of a knowledge of nature 14/ and as long as there is such an area as Mount Tom available there should be really no reason for not enjoying and utilizing these facilities to the utmost.

NATURE ACTIVITIES

The program of nature activities which are being developed in other areas is gaining in popularity so rapidly that the program to be offered to those using Mount Tom will afford an opportunity for participation in one of the finest of leisure pursuits. Almost regardless of the broad social objectives which we may set up for the program of recreation, participation and growth of activities based upon nature and natural phenomena, will contribute greatly to the attainment of those objectives. Furthermore, if we judge the value of an activity by its contributions to the physical and

13/ Dryden, Maude L: "New York Tries Out New Methods Of Education"- Recreation, Vol.VI, 1936 #2, May, p. 58.

14/ Welch, Fay: "Nature Lore In Camps" - The Camping Magazine, Vol. VI, #3, March, 1937 p. 6.

mental health of the participant, by the opportunity which it offers for the development of skills, by the opportunity which it offers for the integration rather than the isolation of all human activities, nature activities should have a place in the park program. 15/

In the park activities program, nature lore will have three approaches: (1) self-guiding trails; (2) nature hikes; (3) trail side museum.

The nature trail is laid out over a very easy but nevertheless sporting terrain so that its use will not be limited. Because the writer intends that this trail be used by young and old, foresight in planning the definite path was necessary. An attempt was made to include on this nature trail all the flora that could be found on the reservation. As the season advances and new plants appear, these will be added to the existing paths. The plainly marked trail with properly labelled cross-paths will guide the nature lover or novice.

The nature hikes which have a definite place in the program are patterned after those conducted in the Eastern part of the state under the auspices of the Works Progress Administration Recreational Service. Each trip will have a definite objective such as bird hikes, flower hikes, tree hikes, and others. For the

15/ Welch, Fay: "Nature Lore In Camps" - The Camping Magazine, Vol. VI, #3, March, p.p.10-11
1937

most part these hikes will take place right on the reservation, but there may be an occasional trip under the supervision of the Recreational Director to some of the adjoining hills.

The trail side museum will this year be very small because there is so little space available in the Stone Lodge. However, it is hoped that with construction of additional buildings definite means will be taken to insure the continuance of this project.

In the museum there will be everything that can be found on the reservation, labelled with definite directions as to the location in the reservation where each specific exhibit may be found. In addition to the collection in the area, the Advisory Committee will provide for additions to the collection from private sources.

The objectives toward which we are heading can be comprehended under two main divisions: one, the enrichment of the esthetic appreciation of the individual; and the other, social value or the training of better citizens. 16/

16/ Dryden, Maude L: "New York Tries Out New Methods Of Education"- Recreation, Vol. VI, 1936 #2, May, p.p. 60 - 61.

The writer wants to enrich permanently the life of the park visitors by developing in them an appreciation of the marvelously beautiful in Nature whether that beauty is displayed in the glory of a sunset, in the majesty of a storm, or in the exquisite symmetry of a snow flake.

The writer wishes to build in these people an understanding of wild life and the laws of nature. He wants them to recognize the interdependence of species, the importance of food, cover and breeding places to animals of all kinds, and the essential roles that the forest and other plant life play in the conservation of soil and water. The writer hopes them to learn the fundamental lesson that to be a good citizen we must love this country of ours and to protect intelligently its forests and grass lands, its mountain sides and swamps, and its waters.

Through this nature activities program, the park visitor will get a much clearer conception of nature with the result that reservation will be more meaningful to him than ever before. 17/

17/ Allen, T.T. Jr: "Leisure Time Activities Reported
1938 by 2700 Towns" - National Park
Service, Region 2, p.p. 1-3

CAMP FIRE CIRCLE

The the casual observer of the program may not seem to merit it too much attention. However, this activity has been carried on previously in the National Parks with amazing success. The National Park Service says, in its discussion of Education Recreation: 18/ "Park visitors are keen to utilize the evening hours at a camp-fire program. People are going to gather and join in community singing and listen to musical and educational programs. Lectures vary widely in subject and method of presentation so as to fit location and type of audience."

According to the Superintendent of the Mount Tom Reservation there are many tent and trailer campers to whom the evening program would prove very worthwhile. In addition to this group the park serves a large number of late picnickers who would most certainly attend the activities that take place at the campfire circle. In addition to this group, people from the surrounding communities would be attracted through notices in the daily papers.

This phase of the program, like the nature lore activities, would serve to increase the esthetic appeal of nature and it would also have its social values.

18/ U.S.Dept. of Interior: "Recreational Use of Land In the United States"- Part XI, Report of Land Planning, National Park Service, p. 242

The writer has observed in his field work that once people are introduced to the phenomena of nature their enthusiasm is unbounded. The meetings which are proposed for this area will serve to introduce and enlighten the park visitor to the fascination of nature. The end result would be a fuller appreciation of life and a happier, healthier citizen.

In addition to the nature phase of the program, varied programs such as are offered at Oglebay Park in Virginia will be presented. These activities will include music, play ground presentations and activities sponsored by civic organizations. 19/

This project presents unlimited possibilities and it is hoped that the reception this summer will be as well received as it has in other sections where every evening during the summer season visitors gather around the blazing cheerful fireplace.

In connection with the Nature Activities for the Reservation the following plan was evolved: Each week will have a special significance. This title will refer to the activities that are going to take place at the Day Camp, Campfire circle, and guided nature hikes. The National Park Service believes that this is an

19/ U.S. Dept. of Interior: "Procedure for Park, Parkway and Recreational Area Study" - PPR Series, #1, January, p. 11
1937

efficient manner of preparing a diversified program that will introduce the park visitor to Nature. 30/

The following 21/ list of a week by week schedule was prepared by Robert Cole, under the supervision of the writer. This program is very flexible and is to serve only as a guide for the Recreational Director and the Advisory Committee.

NATURE CALENDAR

May - last week: Mayflower Week - Have mayflower exhibit in Museum and literature relative to the history of the flowers.

June - first week: Dinosaur Week - In museum, exhibitions of pictures of Dinosaurs - Field trip to site of tracks.

June - 2nd week: Bird Week - In museum, pictures of birds found on Reservation. Field trips explaining the habits and value of birds.

June - 3rd week: Laurel Week - Laurel exhibit in Museum. Trips through the Reservation to look at the laurel.

June - last week: Wild Animal Week:- Conservation Motive, Habits, Characteristics.

July - first week: Tree Week - Conifers - Field trips.

30/ U.S. Dept. of Interior: "Recreational Use of Land In the United States" - Part XI, Report of Land Planning, National Park Service, p. 243.

21/ Cole, Robert: "A Nature Activities Program for Mount Tom" - Special Problem, Mass. State College, Dept. Phys. Ed. for Men, unpublished mms., June p.5.
1939

- July - 2nd Week: Poison Plant Week - Exhibit of Poison-our plants in Museum - Field trip pointing out characteristics of plants.
- July - 3rd Week: Deciduous Tree Week - Field Trips.
- July - last week: Reptile Week - Develop Reptile Pen - exhibit pictures of reptile found on reservation - Trips to locate them.
- Aug. - 1st week: Insect Week - Field trips and exhibits in Museum.
- Aug. - 2nd week: Bird Week - Morning bird walks.
- Aug. - 3rd week: Woodcraft Week - Demonstrations and instructions.
- Aug. - last week: Mushroom Week - Field trip and exhibits in Museum.
- Sept.- 1st week: Wildflower Week - Field trip,
- Sept.- 2nd week: Weather Wise Week - Clouds and weather indications.
- Sept.- 3rd week: Star Week - Field trips - Exhibits of easy and simply observed constelations.
- Sept.- last week: Fall Foliage Week - Field trips and exhibits.

OUTDOOR GROUPS

Summer means vacation to every child, and vacation means no school. To some children it is a time of considerable joy when camps open. To them summer time is linked with plans for living an expanded existence with the trees and hills and streams and star-filled nights.

However, to a much larger percentage of children summer holds nothing more than freedom from school. 22/

22/Dryden, Maude L.: "New York Tries Out New Methods Of Education"- Recreation, Vol. VI, #2, 1936 May, p. 58.

Communities have provided summer playground programs commensurate with the needs and interests of the children in an attempt to make up for this deficiency.

The plan for the Out Door at the reservation is to supplement the playground program and introduce the children to nature and its marvels. In other words, the activities for this part of the program will provide the basis upon which the child will develop a fuller and richer life.

Realizing that children learn and with lasting results during their play, and that all games and activities are experimental with preparation for life situations, it was necessary to consider many things in planning the program. 23/

1. The real purpose of the recreational program is the development of the whole child, his character and personality and his body.

2. Every act is educative.

3. The child's activity determines his adulthood.

4. Education through activity places stress on initiative.

In planning the program then, activities were selected that would:-

23/ Welch, Fay: "Nature Lore in Camps" - The Camping Magazine, Vol. VI, #3, March, p.7.
1937

1. Stimulate healthy curiosity.
2. Develop physical condition.
3. Establish good social relationship.
4. Create fun.

In fact a well rounded social recreation program is the aim. As stated before, this program will not in anyway interfere with the playground activities but will supplement them, thus giving the child a healthy summer full of untold pleasures.

The program for the Outdoor Group 24/ was developed by Robert Cole, in a special problems course entitled "A Nature Activities Program For Mt. Tom." The work was supervised by the writer.

In the program which follows, the youngsters attending the Outdoor Group are exposed to many activities which should be of definite interest to him. This program is merely tentative, serving as a pattern for the Recreational Director, who will make whatever changes seem necessary to meet the field conditions.

PROGRAM FOR THE OUTDOOR GROUPS

9:00 A.M. - Busses arrive and unload; complete roll call (reported by leaders of the individual playground groups); Flag raising ceremony.

24/ Cole, Robert: "A Nature Activities Program For Mount Tom"- Special Problem, Mass. State College, Dept. Phys. Ed. for Men, unpublished mms., June, p.p. 10-13.
1939

- 9:15 - Announcements and explanations of the days activities.
- 9:30 - Low organization games and athletics, Nature trips to museum.
- 10:15 - Nature Lore and Woodcraft.
- 11:45 - Attendance check and general clean-up period.
Pick up and move to eating place.
- 12:00 - Lunch
- 12:30 - Rest period - story telling - group singing.
- 1:30 - Hike or Nature walk.
- 3:00 - Free time - choice of activities.
- 3:45 - Clean up and roll call.
- 4:00 - Busses leave for home playground.

SUMMARY

The Recreational Activities Program at Mount Tom will be under the direction of a competent Recreational Director and a staff working for the Reservation Commission.

An Advisory Committee, made up of lay leaders interested in nature, conservation, and recreation will aid the Recreational Director and the Commissioners in the conduct of the program, and in the promotion and publicity of the special events listed in the Nature calendar. This committee is advisory only, legislative power resting with the Reservation Commissioners.

The program includes the former activities of picnicking, sightseeing and fishing, and in addition will present self-guiding nature trails, guided nature walks, campfire circle and activities for Outdoor Groups. The Outdoor Groups will not interfere with the regular summer playground program but will supplement the activities carried on in the playgrounds of the surrounding communities.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The results of the Program of Recreational Activities for the Mount Tom Reservation have led to the following recommendations:

1. That a Recreational Director be appointed to have charge of the activities program. (This has been done)

2. That a staff of trained leaders be appointed to assist the Recreational Director in the fulfillment of his duties. (This has been done)

3. That an Advisory Committee composed of lay leaders interested in Nature, conservation and recreation be formed to assist the Recreational Director in carrying on the program. (This has been done)

4. That a park activities program, for immediate use, and based upon the interests of park patrons, be instituted. (This has been done).

5. That there be a day by day collection of statistics on the use of facilities, activities, attendance, interests, etc., to evaluate the present program, and to receive suggestions for improving or expanding the program of Recreational Activities for the Reservation. (This will be done)

6. That this study be continued until a year-round, lone-range program is completed. (This will be done.)

7. That the area around Lake Bray be developed for picnicking and bathing. (This will be done)

POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

1. Acquisition of additional land.
2. Development of additional picnic facilities.
3. Construction of Marginal Play Areas.
4. Construction of shelters with fireplaces for use during inclement weather, and during the winter season.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

To Charles W. Bray, Chairman of the Mount Tom Reservation Commission who has cooperated wholeheartedly in this undertaking.

To Professor Harold M. Gore, Professor Reuben E. Trippensee and Professor Winthrop S. Welles, I am indebted for their valuable suggestions and assistance in making my work possible.

To Edward L. Bike, National Park Service, I am indebted for his inspiration and encouragement in making the completion of my work a reality.

To Robert Cole and Robert Joyce, senior students at Massachusetts State College, who assisted on the Nature Program and Camp Fire Circle.

To all others who have helped in various ways, I also extend many thanks for their services in this endeavor.

Robert P. Hunter

Approved by:

W. H. Welles

K. E. Trippensee

Harold W. Gre

Date: May 16, 1939

APPENDIX

1. Parkway Recreational Area Forms.
2. Letter to Advisory Committee
3. Meetings Held
4. Working Schedule

A hand-drawn map of the Holyoke area, oriented vertically. The map shows several roads: "Clark St. Easthampton" at the top left, "East St" running horizontally across the middle, "Christopher Clarke Road" running diagonally from the bottom left towards the top right, and "Holyoke - Northampton Rd" along the right edge. Key locations include "Mt Tom Range" in the center, "Mt. Horntuck" at the top right with "Elevation 80", "Camp Spellman" marked with an 'X' near the top right, "Village Bick Chronos Est" below it, and "Smith's Ferry" further down. Other features include "Look-Out Tower", "Spring", "Lake Brook", and "Camp". A compass rose indicates North is towards the top left. Various other labels like "Reservation Road to Tree Orchard St.", "Trout Pond", and "Hollyoke" are scattered throughout the drawing.

Sketch Map of Mount Tom Reservation

EXISTING AREAS AND FACILITIES

In order to present a picture of the area a survey was made of the entire reservation. The results of this survey were put on the National Park Service' Form 2, of the Park, Parkway and Recreational-Area Study. This form provides a clear concrete picture of the nature of the area.

To understand more fully the meaning of the "classes of recreational areas" the following definitions, taken from the Park, Parkway and Recreation-Area Study, Series #1, are given.

Scenic Area-Extra-Ordinary natural beauty.

Observation Point-Commands a view.

Picnic Ground- Place for people to stop for the day, for lunch or to cook meals.

Camp Ground - Place for people to stop over night.

Sports Area - Developed for outdoor sports.

Geologic Area - Contains special geologic features.

This particular form has been carefully worked out by the National Park Service, the use of which insures a uniform classification of areas and an efficient method of tabulating the natural and physical resources.

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PARK, PARKWAY and
RECREATIONAL-AREA STUDY

EXISTING AREAS AND FACILITIES

GENERAL

1. STATE Massachusetts COUNTY Hampden and Hampshire
2. NAME (Legal) Mount Tom State Reservation
3. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY Mount Tom State Reservation Commission
4. TYPE OF RECREATION
Lands: PARK X RESERVE _____ PARKWAY _____ MONUMENT _____
FOREST _____ WAYSIDE _____ MEMORIAL _____ WILDLIFE RESERVATION _____

5. CLASSES OF RECREATIONAL AREAS

PRIMITIVE CLASS

ROADLESS AREA _____
VIRGIN AREA _____
WILDLIFE AREA _____
WILDERNESS AREA _____
SANCTUARY _____
PRIMEVAL AREA _____

MODIFIED CLASS

BUFFER AREA _____
WILD AREA _____
SCENIC AREA X
PARKWAY _____
ROADSIDE ZONE _____
WATERFRONT ZONE _____

DEVELOPED CLASS

OBSERVATION PT. X
PICNIC GROUND X
CAMPGROUND X
RESIDENCE AREA _____
RESORT AREA _____
SPORTS AREA X

SCIENTIFIC CLASS

WILDLIFE REFUGE _____
GEOLOGICAL AREA X
HISTORICAL AREA _____
BOTANICAL AREA _____
ARCHEOLOGICAL AREA _____

6. WHEN FIRST ACQUIRED

Date 1903 Acres: LAND 1500 WATER _____
Date _____ Acres: LAND _____ WATER _____

ADDITIONS ACQUIRED

Date 1917 Acres: LAND 300 WATER _____
Date 1932 Acres: LAND 1 1/2 WATER _____
TOTAL ACREAGE: LAND 1801 1/2 WATER _____

GRAND TOTAL

7. WHEN OPENED 1903 TO BE OPENED _____

8. ATTENDANCE 1938 83,041

9. OPTIMUM CAPACITY

Spring _____ Summer _____ Fall _____ Winter _____

10. ADDITIONAL POSSIBILITIES FOR RECREATIONAL FACILITY DEVELOPMENT

11. ACCESSIBILITY (to area)

Auto X Bus X Boat _____ Railroad X Air _____

12. NATURE OF ADJOINING LANDS

Industrial N-Ne Residential _____ Resort E-SE-S Farms SW-W-NW
Forests _____ Federal lands _____ State lands _____

13. OBJECTIONABLE EASEMENTS

Factories _____ Water Pollution _____ Refineries _____
Railroad on area _____ Water _____
Others (name) _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT FORM 2

A copy of this form should be filled out for every State-owned recreational area. The form may also be used to record comparable data concerning recreational areas not owned by the State, such as Federal areas, county or municipal areas, or privately owned areas. *Where facts are requested, it is important that guesswork be eliminated.* When an opinion is given on the form, it should be so stated, and its source given.

1. Give name of State, and county or counties in which area is located.
2. Give full legal name of the area, and total acreage included.
3. Give name of department, commission, etc., having administrative jurisdiction over the area.
4. Check one, or if area includes more than one type of recreational land, indicate the dominant type by "1", secondary by "2", etc.
5. Indicate classes of recreational area included, numerically in order of importance. For definitions, see appendix to SUGGESTED PROCEDURE FOR RECREATION STUDY.
6. Give dates of original and subsequent acquisitions, and area of land and water in each acquisition.
7. Give date when area was first opened to the public. If not yet opened, give probable opening date.
8. Give annual attendance for the calendar year 1936. If figures for 1936 are not available, give attendance for last calendar year for which figures are available, indicating year.
9. Give the optimum number of persons which can be accommodated in each season.
10. Give possible extensions of present facilities and potential additional facilities which might be accommodated in the area.
11. Check the means by which the area may be reached at the present time.
12. Indicate nature of adjoining lands by direction. For example, if the area is bounded on the northeast by industrial lands and on the south by farms, insert NE after industrial and S after farms.
13. If any of the objectionable factors noted appear on the area, insert a check in the appropriate blank. Objectionable easements include power line or pipe line rights of way, prior appropriation rights to water on the area, etc.

NATURE OF AREA

14. LAND CHARACTERISTICS

Mountains X Hills X Rolling _____ Flat _____ Marsh _____ Beach _____
Desert _____ Rocky surface X
Soil: CLAY _____ LOAM X SAND X GRAVEL _____
Range of Elevation: LOW 150-81 feet HIGH 1202 81 feet

15. GEOLOGIC FEATURES

Surface Rocks mostly: SANDSTONE _____ LIMESTONE _____ IGNEOUS X

Check any important examples of the following features known to be present:

CAVES _____ NATURAL BRIDGES _____ HIGH CLIFFS X
MESAS _____ BALANCED ROCKS X ROCK FIGURES _____
SAND DUNES _____ VOLCANIC FORMATION X BAD LANDS _____
SPRINGS X WATER FALLS X HOT SPRINGS _____
GLACIERS _____ PETRIFIED LEAVES OR WOOD _____ FOSSILS _____

Are there mining operations on area no If so, what kind _____
STILL OPERATING _____ OR ABANDONED _____

16. WATER

Ocean: SHORELINE LENGTH _____
Lakes and Ponds: NUMBER 1 SIZE 12 acres
Beach: LENGTH none WIDTH _____ SLOPE _____ SAND _____ STONY _____
Rivers and Streams: LENGTH ON AREA 3.5 miles FALLS 3 RAPIDS _____
GORGES _____ BEACHES _____

17. CLIMATE

Range of Temperature: WINTER: max. 55 F min. -20 F SUMMER: max. 95 F min. 65 - F
Average Precipitation: WINTER: max. 16.15" min. 8.94" SUMMER: max. 13.5" min. 9.42"

18. FLORA

Forest types: CONIFEROUS _____ DECIDUOUS _____ MIXED X
Heavily wooded X Partially wooded _____ Sparsely wooded _____
Low Ground Cover: DENSE UNDERBRUSH _____ THIN UNDERBRUSH X
WILD FLOWERS X GRASS X MOSSES AND FERNS X

19. FAUNA

Principal Species: MAMMALS, BIRDS, FISH Squirrels - Red and Grey; Chipmunks;
Fox; Deer; Falcons; Ducks;
Trout, Pickerel, Perch

20. HISTORIC AND PREHISTORIC FEATURES

Historic Structures: TYPE _____ CONDITION _____
Other Historic Remains: TYPE _____ CONDITION _____
Markers and Memorials: TYPE _____ NUMBER _____
Prehistoric Remains: MOUNDS _____ Other _____
Comments: _____

21. OUTSTANDING FEATURES OF PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE TO THE AREA

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT FORM 2—*continued*

14. Indicate principal land characteristics by checks. Give range of elevation in feet above sea level.
15. Indicate geologic features by checks.
16. Indicate principal water features of the area, giving length, size, etc., in appropriate units.
17. Give minimum and maximum winter temperature, and minimum and maximum summer temperature. Give average winter and average summer precipitation, figured over a period of at least five years.
18. Check primary floral characteristics.
19. List principal fauna in order of abundance.
20. Indicate principal historic and prehistoric features of the area giving type, condition, etc., and indicating number and type of markers and memorials. This should be supplemented by a brief descriptive statement.
21. Note such outstanding features as natural amphitheaters, unique rock formations, mountains, waterfalls, large trees, unusual caves, lakes, trails, etc., where these features are outstanding in the area.

FACILITIES

ACTIVITIES

	No.	Size or Length
22. GENERAL		
Museums	1	Stone Lodge
Arboreta		
Aquaria		
Trails	12	8 miles
Bridle Paths . .	Circuit	6 miles
Bt. Gardens . . .		
Zoo. Gardens . .		
Drives		
Amphitheatres . .		
Historical Sites .		
Children's Plgds .	2	1 acre

23. SPORTS		
Skating Areas . .	1	3 acres
trails	2	2.5 miles
Skijumps		
Toboggan Slides .		
Ice Hockey Rinks		
Golf Courses . . .		
Archery Courses .		
Baseball Field . .		
Softball Field . .		
Soccer Field . . .		
Tennis Courts . .		
Croquet Courts . .		

24. WATER		
Lakes and Ponds .	1	12 acres
Streams	2	3.5 miles
S. Pools		
W. Pools		
Beaches		

25. STRUCTURES		
Recreation Bldg..	2	
Pavilions		
Boat Houses . . .		
Bath Houses . . .		
Craft Shops . . .		
Stables		
Trail Lodges . . .		
Lookout Towers .	2	30'

26. AESTHETIC	Participation, No.	Spectators, Visitors
Art Appre. . . .		
Music		
Dramatics		
Nature		
Dancing		
Pageants		

27. SOCIAL		
Parties		
Folk Games		
Picnics	21996	
Camping		
Recreation Games		
Story Telling . . .		

28. PHYSICAL		
Cycling		
Hiking		
Horseback Riding		
Boating		
Swimming		
Fishing		
Skating		
Skiing		
Coasting		
Hockey		
Golf		
Archery		
Baseball		
Softball		
Tennis		
Croquet		
Lawn Bowling . . .		
Hunting		

29. CREATIVE		
Handicrafts		
Photography		
Writing		
Painting		
Graphic Arts		
Exploration		

OTHER ACTIVITIES (list)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT FORM 2—*continued*

22. Indicate number of each facility, and its size, length or other appropriate measurement. Give total length of trails, bridle paths, etc.
23. Indicate number of each facility, and total length, area, etc., where relevant.
24. Give number and total area or length of lakes, streams, beaches, etc., on the area.
25. Give number and size of structures.
- 26 to 29. Give number of persons participating in each activity, and number attending each activity as spectators, during the calendar year 1936. If figures for 1936 are not available, give figures for last available calendar year.

FACILITIES — CONTINUED

30. ORGANIZED CAMPS

Number: CHILDREN _____ ADULT _____ GIRLS _____ BOYS _____ COED _____

Seasonal Capacity: CHILDREN _____ ADULT _____

For each camp give the following:

Name of camp _____ P. O. ADDRESS _____

NAME OF DIRECTOR _____ PERMANENT ADDRESS _____

NAME OF OWNER _____ PERMANENT ADDRESS _____

If organization camp: NAME OF SPONSORING AGENCY _____

ADDRESS _____

Sleeping Accommodations: Number: CABINS _____ TENTS _____ DORMITORIES _____

Central Buildings: NUMBER _____ AVERAGE LGTH. SUMMER SEASON, WEEKS _____

AVERAGE STAY SUMMER SEASON: CHILDREN _____ ADULTS _____

Persons Accom. 1936: CHILDREN _____ ADULTS _____ Camper Weeks: CHILDREN _____ ADULTS _____

Rentals: ANNUAL \$ _____ PER CAMPER PER DAY \$ _____ Fees to Camper: PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

Utilities: WATER SUPPLY _____ LIGHTING _____ LAUNDRY _____ BATHS _____

LATRINES _____ FLUSH _____ CHEMICAL _____ PIT _____

31. INDEPENDENT CAMPS

Number _____ Total Acreage _____ Total Capacity _____ Season Lgth. _____

Length stay permitted _____ Average length stay _____ Winter use _____

Equipment: TENTS YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

PLATFORMS . . YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

TABLES YES _____ NO. _____ OPEN FIREPLACES, NO. _____

Auto space YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

Tent space YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

Shelters. YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

Trailer space YES _____ NO. _____ CHARGES PER DAY \$ _____ PER WEEK \$ _____

Utilities: WATER SUPPLY _____ LIGHTING _____ LAUNDRY _____ BATHS _____

LATRINES _____ FLUSH _____ CHEMICAL _____ PIT _____

32. PICNIC GROUNDS

Total No. 4 areas Total Acreage 20 acres Charges \$ None

Equipment: FIREPLACES, NO. 36 TABLES, NO. 70 SHELTERS, NO. 2

Parking space: NO. 7 CHARGES PER DAY \$ None PER WEEK \$ None

Attendance (1935): AVERAGE PER DAY 1252 PER HOLIDAY 2500 YEAR TOTAL 83041

Utilities: WATER SUPPLY 3 springs LIGHTING None GARBAGE DISPOSAL Daily

LATRINES _____ FLUSH _____ CHEMICAL 3 PIT 2

33. COTTAGES

Ownership: PUBLIC: NO. _____ RENT PER WK. \$ _____ MONTH \$ _____ SEASON \$ _____

PRIVATE: NO. _____ GROUND RENT \$ _____ SEASON \$ _____ YEAR \$ _____

34. HOTELS OR LODGES

Ownership: PUBLIC: NO. _____ OPERATION: PUBLIC _____ LEASED _____

PRIVATE: NO. _____ OPERATION: OWNER _____ LEASED _____

Rates to Guests: PUBLIC: \$ _____ DAY \$ _____ WEEK \$ _____ MONTH _____

PRIVATE: \$ _____ DAY \$ _____ WEEK \$ _____ MONTH _____

35. ADMIN. AND SERVICE FACILITIES

Admin. Bldg. _____ Infirmary _____ Refectories _____ Stores _____ Restaurants _____

Workshops _____ Storage Bldgs. 2 Garages 1 Gas Stations _____ Dwellings _____

Central Bldgs. _____ Museum _____ TYPE OF COLLECTION _____

Combination Buildings (state use) _____

Comfort Stations other than listed above _____ FLUSH _____ CHEMICAL _____ PIT _____

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT FORM 2—*continued*

30. Give details as to facilities for organized camping by filling in the appropriate blanks.
31. Give details as to independent camps by filling in the appropriate blanks.
32. Give details as to available picnic grounds by filling in the appropriate blanks.
33. Indicate whether public or private cottages are available on the area by filling in the appropriate blanks.
34. Indicate hotel or lodge facilities by filling in the appropriate blanks.
35. Indicate administrative and service facilities in the appropriate blanks.

PERSONNEL

Mt. Tom State Reservation

36. ADMINISTRATOR: Title Commission Duties Development, supervision & maintenance &
37. NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES: Year-round 6 Seasonal none
38. PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM WORKERS AND TECHNICIANS (List, give Number, Title, Duties, Salaries):

None at present

FINANCE

39. DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION COSTS (Up to end of Last Fiscal Year)

Value of Area (exclusive of improvements) \$ 36,500.00

Present Value of Improvements (or estimated) \$ 200,000.00

Annual Operation Cost (exclusive Central Office exp.) . . \$ 14,500.00

Payroll: YEAR-ROUND EMPLOYEES \$ 10,000.00 SEASONAL EMPLOYEES \$ none

40. SOURCES OF FUNDS

Fiscal Year ending	1930	1937	1938
APPROPRIATION (GEN. FUND)	\$ <u>10,000.00</u>	\$ <u>14,500.00</u>	\$ <u>14,500.00</u>
SPECIAL TAX	\$ <u>none</u>	\$ <u>none</u>	\$ <u>none</u>
BONDS	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>
EMERGENCY FUNDS—STATE	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>
—FEDERAL	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>
FEES AND CHARGES	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>
CONCESSIONS	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>
GIFTS	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>	\$ <u>"</u>

41. ACQUISITION OF WHOLE AREA (Cost or Value) BY

Purchase:

STATE GEN. FUNDS	\$ <u>36,500.00</u>	ACRES <u>1,801.5</u>
STATE BOND FUNDS	\$	ACRES
SPECIAL TAX FUNDS	\$	ACRES
OTHER STATE FUNDS (SPECIFY)	\$	ACRES
FEDERAL FUNDS—REGULAR	\$	ACRES
—EMERGENCY	\$	ACRES
JOINT PURCHASE (SPECIFY)	\$	ACRES
STATE FUNDS	\$	ACRES
OTHER	\$	ACRES
Total by Purchase	\$ <u>36,500.00</u>	ACRES <u>1,801.5</u>

Gift:

COUNTY OR CITY	\$ <u>none</u>	ACRES <u>none</u>
PERSON OR CORPORATION	\$	ACRES
GRANT OF FEDERAL LANDS	\$	ACRES
DEDICATION, OTHER STATES	\$	ACRES
Total by Gift	\$	ACRES

Other:

TAX DELINQUENCY	\$ <u>none</u>	ACRES <u>none</u>
SPECIFY OTHERS NOT LISTED	\$	ACRES
Total, Other	\$	ACRES

GRAND TOTAL \$ 36,500.00 ACRES 1,801.5

INSTRUCTIONS FOR FILLING OUT FORM 2—*continued*

36. Give title and duties of chief administrative officer.
37. Give number of year-round and number of seasonal employees.
38. Give number, titles, duties, and salaries of professional program workers and technicians as indicated.
39. Give statement of development and operation costs for the fiscal year ending 1936. If figures for 1936 are not available, give figures for last available fiscal year. Cost of operation is understood to include only costs chargeable directly to this area and to exclude any share of the expense of operating a central office not on the area.
40. Give revenue from governmental and non-governmental sources for the fiscal years ending in 1930, 1933 and 1936.
41. Give indicated details as to acquisition of area.

Whenever possible, it is desirable to give an adequate appraisal of the area, plans and possibilities for expansion and additional facilities, its local color (including cultural and legendary significance), and reactions and opinions of the writer on attached sheets.

LETTER TO BE SENT TO POSSIBLE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Dear Mr. or Mrs.:

The Mount Tom Reservation Commission is planning to institute an activities program on the Mount Tom Reservation this coming season. It is hoped that through an activities program the average park visitor will experience a fuller appreciation of nature and its beauties, thus obtain greater enjoyment while at the Reservation. You may be familiar with the program of activities conducted at the Bear Mountain State Park, New York and the Oglebay Park, West Virginia.

Because of your interest in conservation and nature activities you were suggested as a possible member to serve on an advisory committee to assist Mount Tom Reservation Commission and the Recreational Director, who will be in charge of the program.

The purposes and objectives of the proposed program of activities for the Mount Tom Reservation, and the proposed functions of this Committee, will be explained in more detail at the first meeting to be held at the Massachusetts State College, Physical Education Building, April 25th, 1939.

Please return the enclosed card signifying

whether or not you can be present at the above-
indicated meeting.

Your cooperation in this project will give
definite assurance of its success.

- a. [illegible]
- b. [illegible]
- c. [illegible]
- d. [illegible]
- e. [illegible]
- f. [illegible]
- g. [illegible]
- h. [illegible]
- i. [illegible]
- j. [illegible]
- k. [illegible]
- l. [illegible]
- m. [illegible]
- n. [illegible]
- o. [illegible]
- p. [illegible]
- q. [illegible]
- r. [illegible]
- s. [illegible]
- t. [illegible]
- u. [illegible]
- v. [illegible]
- w. [illegible]
- x. [illegible]
- y. [illegible]
- z. [illegible]

MEETING OF ADVISORY GROUP - APRIL 25, 1939

1. Introduction by Mr. Charles Bray
 - a. The use of Mt. Tom
 - b. Need for a program
2. Mr. Bike of National Park Service
 - a. National Picture of State Park Planning
 - b. Need of program
3. Mr. Hunter - Presentation of the Program
 - a. Introduction to the study
 - b. Activities to be presented
 - c. Need for committees
4. Election of committees
5. Acceptance of program
6. Adjourned until next meeting, May 17th, 1939

SUB-COMMITTEE OF ADVISORY GROUP

1. Executive

Pres. Charles W. Bray

V.Pres. Dr. William Vinal

Sec'y. Ernestine Perry

Treas. Aaron Bagg

2. Program

Miss Harriette Aull, Miss Susan Van Riper,
Charles Bray, Larry Briggs, Harold M. Gore,
Dr. William Vinal, Mrs. Ernestine Perry,
Mrs. William Dwight, Russell Flanagan,
Anthony Kendrew, Burlingham Schurr, Aaron
Bagg.

3. Publicity and Promotion

Mrs. Ernestine Perry

Mrs. William Dwight

Mr. Gunnar Oleson

MAY 9, 1939

Meeting of the Mt. Tom Reservation with officials
from the National Park Service

Present: Mr. Desmond, Consultant for the National Park Service, Mr. Bray, Mr. Bike, Mr. Haskins, and Mr. Beattie of the Civilian Conservation Corp, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Cole, Mr. Joyce.

Purpose: Approve site of the campfire circle and plan for its immediate construction. (This was done and construction started May 10th, 1939)

MAY 10, 1939

Meeting at Mt. Tom Reservation with officials of the
Works Progress Administration

Present: Mr. Bike, Mr. Landers, W.P.A., Mr. Griffith, Mr. O'Flaherty, Mr. Hunter, Mr. Cole, Mr. Joyce.

Purpose: To secure W. P. A. Recreational Assistance.

1. Presentation of program
2. Staff requirements
3. Discussion
4. Cooperation assured

Meeting, May 17, 1939

PLACE: Stone Lodge, Mt. Tom Reservation

PRESENT: Mr. Bray, Mrs. Perry, Miss Van Riper,
Dr. Vinal, Mr. Kendrew, Mr. Flanagan, Mr. Hunter,
Mr. Cole, Mr. Joyce, Mr. Desmond, Consultant for
the National Park Service, Mr. Bike, representing
the National Park Service, and Mr. O'Flaherty,
representing the Works Progress Administration.

PURPOSE: Formulation of opening day program, visit
to Campfire Circle and picnic.

PROGRAM FOR MAY 30, 1939 - OPENING DAY

Afternoon - Guided Nature Hikes

Evening - Camp Fire Circle

6:30 P.M. Concert by Warwick
C.C.C. Band

7:15 P.M. Indian Ceremonial
Fire Dance

7:30 P.M. Dr. William "Captain
Billy" Vinal

NEXT MEETING: May 24, 1939, at the Reservation to
plan for the formal programs for the month of June.

WORKING SCHEDULE

1. Nov. 3, 1938 Met Mr. Bike of the National Park Service, in Amherst. Problem and purpose of the study explained.
2. Nov. 17, 1938 Met Mr. Bike in Boston. Outline for the study submitted and approved.
3. Dec. 15, 1938 Met Mr. Bike in Amherst. Progress report of readings submitted.
4. Dec. 28, 1938 Visited the Reservation - Orientation
5. Jan. 16, 1939 Met Mr. Bike - Progress Report
6. Jan. 17, 1939 Mr. Bike and Mr. Hunter met with Mr. Bray, Chairman of the Mt. Tom Reservation Commission, in Chicopee. Purpose of meeting was to get an appropriation from the commissioners to pay the salary of a Recreational Director.
7. Feb. 22, 1939 Foot Survey of the Reservation accompanied by Supt. Fitzgerald of the Mt. Tom C.C.C. Camp Facilities were tabulated on forms of the Park, Parkway and Recreational Area Study.
8. Mar. 10, 12, 1939 Met Mr. Bike, Progress Report
9. Mar. 16, 1939 Met Mr. Bray in Chicopee. Outlined program for the Reservation. Submitted names of proposed members of Advisory Council.
10. Mar. 21, 1939 Survey the Reservation with Mr. George Yarwood, Landscape Architect of the National Park Service. Located sites for Outdoor Groups and Campfire Circle.

11. Mar. 27, 1939 Met Mr. Bike in Amherst. Submitted first draft of Park Activities Program.
12. Apr. 1-2, 1939 Trip to New York City. Guided tour of New York City play areas and recreational centers under leadership of F. J. Cormier, Landscape Architect, New York City Park Department, and James Mulholland, Recreational Director.
13. Apr. 5, 1939 Educational Recreation - Field trip to Mt. Tom. Mr. Hunter guided a group of secondary school principals and superintendents through the Reservations, analyzing salient features of the area.
14. Apr. 19, 1939 Field trip to Reservation to determine location of Nature trails and plan detail of Campfire circle.
15. Apr. 25, 1939 Meeting of Advisory Committee and appointment of committees and acceptance of program.
16. May 9, 1939 Meeting of Park Service Officials, Mt. Tom Commissioner, C.C.C. Officials and the writer. Final approval of sites of Outdoor Groups and Campfire Circle.
17. May 7, 1939 Field Trip to Look Park, Northampton, Mass. Survey of Recreational facilities and Administration of the Park under the supervision of M. F. Narum, Park Manager.

18. May 10, 1939 - Meeting with Works Progress Administration Recreational Officials. Cooperation and assistance assured.
19. May 10, 1939 - Work on Campfire Circle started.
20. May 17, 1939 - Meeting of Advisory Committee. Definite program planned for the opening day, May 30, 1939.

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